



VOLUME VI NO. 35

DON'T FRATERNIZE! DON'T TRUST A GERMAN

5 MARCH 1945

GERMANY:

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TANKS AND INFANTRY HAVE BROKEN INTO THE GREAT CITY OF COLOGNE. GENERAL HODGES' FORCES LAUNCHED AN ATTACK AT FOUR O'CLOCK THIS MORNING. A PALL OF BLACK SMOKE IS HANGING OVER COLOGNE. ABOUT 4000 GERMAN TROOPS TRYING TO GET TO THE HOHENZOLLERN BRIDGE ABOVE COLOGNE, HAVE BEEN CUT OFF. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS SHOW THAT THE WESTERN END OF THE HOHENZOLLERN BRIDGE IS BLOCKED BY THE COLLAPSE OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE. IT IS NOW ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE NOW ONLY 5 OR 6 BRIDGES STILL STANDING BETWEEN COLOGNE AND THE NETHERLANDS FRONTIER. THE TWO GERMAN ARMIES WHICH HAVE BEEN DEFENDING THE PLAIN OF COLOGNE HAVE SO FAR LOST 60,000 MEN IN PRISONERS ALONE.

AMERICAN NINTH ARMY TROOPS ARE VIRTUALLY UP TO THE WESTERN BANK OF THE RHINE ALONG A 20 MILE STRETCH. GENERAL SIMPSON'S MEN NOW CONTROL NEARLY ALL OF THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE RIVER BETWEEN KREFELD AND NEUSS. SPEARHEADS OF THE NINTH ARE REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN A TOWN ABOUT 5 MILES NORTH OF HOMBERG. OTHER NINTH ARMY MEN ARE FIGHTING AT THE APPROACHES TO THE BRIDGE LINKING HOMBERG WITH DUISBURG. THE GERMANS CLAIM THAT THIS BRIDGE HAS BEEN DESTROYED.

AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE FRONT, UNITED KINGDOM, CANADIAN AND AMERICAN NINTH ARMY FORCES ARE PRESSING INTO THE GERMAN POCKET COVERING THE ROAD AND RAIL BRIDGES AT WESEL. GERMAN REAR GUARDS ARE FIGHTING SKILLFULLY TO COVER THEIR ESCAPE ROUTE. THE NAZIS ARE HOPING TO SALVAGE ALL THEY CAN OF THEIR BATTERED ARMIES WEST OF THE RHINE. BRITISH TROOPS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE REACHED THE RHINE 8 MILES NORTHWEST OF WESEL. CANADIAN PATROLS WERE LAST REPORTED WITHIN 7 MILES OF WESEL.

A PARTIAL SECURITY SILENCE HAS BEEN CLAMPED ON THE MOVEMENTS OF LT. GENERAL GEORGE PATTON'S THIRD ARMY. CORRESPONDENTS REPORT THAT THIRD ARMY YANKS GAINED UP TO 3½ MILES YESTERDAY ON A 30 MILE FRONT RUNNING FROM ABOVE PRUM TO BELOW TRIER.

AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS FROM BRITAIN WERE OVER THE REICH TODAY FOR THE 15TH DAY RUNNING. MORE THAN 400 HEAVIES POUNDED OIL REFINERIES NEAR HAMBURG AND RAIL YARDS AT CHEMNITZ IN THE PROVINCE OF SAXONY IN SUPPORT OF THE RUSSIANS. LAST NIGHT RAF BOMBERS STRUCK AT THE ARMAMENT CITY OF ESSEN IN THE RUHR. RAF MOSQUITOS STUNG BERLIN FOR THE 13TH NIGHT IN A ROW. PILOTED GERMAN AIRCRAFT WERE OVER BRITAIN LAST NIGHT FOR THE SECOND NIGHT RUNNING.

RUSSIA:

SPEARHEADS OF THE SECOND WHITE RUSSIAN ARMY GROUP HAVE DRIVEN TO THE BALTIC SEA BETWEEN STETTIN AND DANZIG. ONE COLUMN IS REPORTED TO HAVE REACHED THE SEA NEAR THE COASTAL TOWN OF KOLBERG. IT IS KNOWN THAT TWO OF MARSHALL ROKOSSEVSKY'S SPEARHEADS HAVE REACHED THE BALTIC ISOLATING THE GERMAN GARRISON IN THE DANZIG AREA AND CUTTING OFF ANOTHER ENEMY FORCE FURTHER WEST. SOME OF HIMMLER'S CRACK SS TROOPS HAVE BEEN TRAPPED AND ARE BEING MOPPED UP BY THE REDS.

THE RUSSIANS ON MARSHALL ZHUKOV'S RIGHT FLANK HAVE INCREASED THEIR THREAT TO STETTIN AND THE ODER ESTUARY. THE GERMANS SAID TODAY THAT ZHUKOV'S MEN HAD TAKEN THE CITY OF STARGARD AFTER BITTER STREET FIGHTING. MOSCOW PUT THE SOVIETS AT JUST UNDER 20 MILES FROM STETTIN.

PACIFIC:

TROOPS OF THE SECOND BRITISH DIVISION HAVE SECURED ANOTHER BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE IRRAWADDY ABOUT 28 MILES WEST OF MANDALAY. THE 19TH INDIAN DIVISION PRESSING DOWN ON MANDALAY FROM THE NORTH IS LESS THAN 18 MILES FROM THE BIG TOWN.

AMERICAN MARINES ON IWO JIMA HAVE GAINED MORE GROUND IN SPITE OF STIFFER RESISTANCE. NEARLY 13,000 DEAD HAVE BEEN COUNTED ON THE ISLAND IN 14 DAYS FIGHTING.

THE JAP RADIO REPORTED AMERICAN BOMBERS OVER TOKIO AGAIN TODAY.

GILBERT

BY SGT. N. S. FIRFIRES

